



Scrutiny Councillor Group Priority 3 Update, Jenna Gravelle February 2024.





# **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3**

Support schools and settings to develop a range of research and enquiry skills as a key part of their professional learning. Our aim is to enable schools and settings across the region to use enquiry to establish and maintain a rhythm of learning, innovation and change.

We will:

- i. Support the growth of networks of schools to develop a range of **enquiry skills** by leading enquiries in their own settings.
- ii. Promote collaboration across our schools to explore and develop approaches to **digital learning design.**
- iii. Drive a system whereby schools are willing to **take risks, experiment and innovate** their practice to raise standards.







# 3.i Support the growth of networks of schools to develop a range of **enquiry skills** by leading enquiries in their own settings.

## • National Professional Enquiry Project (NPEP)

#### Intent

- To support practitioners across Wales to develop their enquiry and pedagogic skills, to improve teaching and learning across schools and settings.
- To work with higher education institution (HEI) partners Swansea University of Wales and the University of Wales Trinity Saint David.
- To support a growing network of schools to develop a range of enquiry skills by leading enquiries in their own setting focused on school improvement in the context of the Curriculum for Wales and ALN reform

#### Implementation

- Strategic approach to promotion and recruitment that demonstrates how the NPEP is a funded tool for School self improvement.
- 90 schools and settings participating in the NPEP 2023-24.
- NPEP 2023-24 was launched on 26.10.23 and brought together colleagues from HEIs, Welsh Government (WG), local authorities (LAs) and schools/educational settings.
- Strategic plan is in place to enable effective sharing of enquiry work within NPEP across the region.
- A calendar of professional learning has been created, supporting the HEI's to deliver both formal and informal collaborative professional learning sessions to develop and deepen participants understanding of research methods

#### Impact

- Partneriaeth Sgwrs NPEP Impact Podcasts
- Improved pupil outcomes through positively impacting on pupil learning and achievement. Success can be measured by improvements in academic performance, increased engagement, enhanced critical thinking skills, and other indicators of student success.
- Promotion of ongoing professional development for teachers.
- Adoption of effective pedagogical approaches and instructional strategies.
- A collaborative culture among teachers, promoting the sharing of knowledge, resources, and best practices.
- Greater understanding of how to use data and evidence to inform instructional decision making.
- NPEP participants also collaborate with schools across the region within Enquiry Networks, each led by an established enquiry school







# **3.ii** Promote collaboration across our schools to explore and develop approaches to **digital** *learning design.*

• Wales Collaborative Learning Design (WCLD)

#### Intent

- Support schools to develop innovative ways of designing learning using digital technology to enhance pedagogical practice.
- Support school in professional learning activities that deepens their understanding of how to use technology to effectively enhance learning experiences.
- Showcase high quality resources to share effective practice with schools across Wales.

### Implementation

- WCLD is promoted with schools across the region.
- Schools have engaged with Remote Asynchronous Learning Design (RALD) resources and identified elements that would most benefit their learners.
- Practitioners use an enquiry approach to implement an element into their classroom practice and evaluate its impact on learner progress.
- A resource has been developed to share good practice with schools across Wales

#### Impact

- Participating schools (Ysgol Greenhill, Penyrheol Comprehensive School and Pembroke Dock Community School) have developed a Partneriaeth Sgwrs' WCLD 'Project 2023 <u>Podcast</u>.
- Further development of the RALD resources.
- High quality professional learning resources that enable good practice to be shared with schools.
- Participants report increased levels of confidence and change of behaviour in their use of technology and digital pedagogy



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# **3.iii** Drive a system whereby schools are willing to **take risks, experiment and innovate** their practice to raise standards.

• Schools as Learning Organisations (SLO)

#### Intent

- Support school's development as an effective learning organisation in line with the seven dimensions as outlined within the SLO model.
- Provide professional learning to support head teachers and senior leaders to grow their schools as learning organisations.
- Promote Welsh Government's National Approach to Professional Learning (NAPL)
- Showcase case studies of schools engagement with the SLO to hare effective practice with schools across Wales.

### Implementation

- An SLO working group has been established providing participating schools/settings to collaborate.
- Participants use their SLO survey results to identify strengths, areas for development and ways of working to enable all staff to develop professionally.
- Participants have a range of practical strategies and resources to support developments within their school.
- Participants have opportunities to reflect critically and candidly on current practice, and being open to others' reflections on how practice can be improved or developed

### Impact

- Participants have a better understanding of the SLO Model as a basis for continuous development.
- 60% of the schools completing their SLO Survey across the Partneriaeth region have previously engaged or are currently engaging within the regional SLO Working Group.
- Participating schools are implementing the practical strategies, activities and techniques developed by the SLO working group.

